

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1 - 4. Canceled

5. (Currently amended) A modular joint prosthesis comprising a neck, a trochanter, and a connected sub-assembly including an intramedullary rod, a fastener and a link, said link, ~~said trochanter~~ and said intramedullary rod each freely and independently movable relative to one another, said neck having a through bore, said trochanter having a through bore, said intramedullary rod having a bore, said fastener welded to said intramedullary rod about said bore, said link extending through said fastener, said link adapted to be telescoped with said through bore of said trochanter and said through bore of said neck whereby said trochanter is between said intramedullary rod and said neck and said fastener is adapted to lock ~~said neck~~, said trochanter and said sub-assembly together.

6. (Previously presented) A modular joint of claim 5 wherein said fastener includes a tubular extension affixed to said intramedullary

rod and encircles said link, said link and said tubular extension relatively movable.

7. (Original) A modular joint of claim 5 wherein said through bore in said trochanter is tapered and said tubular extension includes a complementary taper whereby said complementary tapers combine to form a press fit.

8. (Original) A modular joint of claim 5 wherein said link has planar surfaces and said through bore of said trochanter has complementary surfaces whereby said link and said trochanter are adapted be non-rotationally connected.

9. (Previously presented) An artificial hip joint comprising a neck having a longitudinal axis with an arm for receiving a ball extending at an angle from said longitudinal axis, a through bore with a counter bore portion along said longitudinal axis, said through bore being countersunk, a trochanter with a through bore, a portion of said trochanter through bore adapted to receive said counter bore portion for rotational movement, an end portion of said trochanter through bore being tapered, and an integrally formed sub-assembly having a link and a intramedullary rod connected by a tubular extension, said tubular extension

permanently attached to said intramedullary rod, said link and intramedullary rod being relatively independently movable, said link including a threaded bore, said link adapted for insertion in said countersunk through bore and said trochanter through bore, said tubular extension having a taper complementary with said tapered end portion of said trochanter through bore.

10. - 11. Canceled

12. (Previously presented) In a modular prosthesis to be used in bone joint replacement having a weight bearing component with a proximal end, a distal end, and a through bore therebetween, an intramedullary rod having a distal end and a proximal end, said proximal end including a bore adapted to be connected to said weight bearing component, the improvement comprising a sub-assembly composed of an elongated link having a proximal end and a distal end, said proximal end of said link including a tubular portion having a mouth, said distal end of said link being tapered toward said mouth, a tubular extension on said proximal end of said intramedullary rod, said tubular extension having an internal taper, said distal end of said link independently movably disposed within said bore in said proximal end of said intramedullary rod permitting relative rotational and longitudinal movement between

said tubular extension and said link, said tubular extension rigidly affixed to said proximal end of said intramedullary rod, said improvement comprising said tubular extension being deformable to engage said link.